IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3, line 19, please replace the paragraph beginning "Wang et al." with the following:

Wang et al. describe a disk/persistent-RAM hybrid file system in the document An-I A. Wang, P. Reiher, G. J. Popek, G. H. Kuenning, "Conquest: Better Performance Through a Disk/Persistent-RAM Hybrid File System". Their file system is built on the underlying assumption that persistent memory is available on a large scale in the Gigabyte range. The use of memory space or disk space for a file according to the file system of Wang et al. mainly depends on the size of the file. The file system of Wang et al. is based on the findings that most file access steps are to small files. In addition, small files make up the major part of files in a file system. A major part of the fast-access persistent-memory space is reserved for small files below 1 Megabyte, metadata, executables and shared libraries in persistent RAM. Metadata is data containing information on file data. An example for metadata is an i-node. An i-node holds administrative information on a file on the disk and the addresses of data blocks containing the file data on the disk. Therefore, slow access to disk-based larger files is limited to a smaller number of events. This way, according to Wang et al., the overall file system performance is enhanced with respect to access speed.

Page 17, line 1, please replace the paragraph beginning "Fig. 5" with the following:

Fig. 5 represents a later stage of this system. The file system has applied the conversion routine to the working data structure 50. A file data structure created this way in a memory space 60 that is allocated by the memory manager to the file system. The

2

memory range 38 containing original working data blocks 40, 42, and 44 (cf. FIGS. 2 to 4) has been deallocated from the file system to the memory manager. For the working data structure 38 has been secured at the point in time when the file system has the copy 50 of the working data structure 38 and the conversion routine 58. It is at that point that the file system confirms success of the saving process to the application. The memory manager is free to allocate this memory range to another application or to the file system. Obviously, a part of the memory range 38 has been allocated to the file system for storing the file data structure 60.

3